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**Title:**

Moratorium statement from G. T. Virgo

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At its meeting today the State Executive resolved to disassociate itself from the proposed Moratorium activities on September 18th.

This decision was taken following reports from three Members of the Executive who are also Members of the Vietnam Moratorium Co-ordinating Committee, following a General Meeting of the Moratorium last night.

It was the view of the Executive that notwithstanding the previous decision of an A.L.P. Convention to support the September Moratorium, decisions regarding Moratorium activities have now been taken by a group of people who are totally unrepresentative of the great majority of Australian people who are opposed to Australia's continued involvement in the Vietnam War and dedicated to the repeal of the National Service Act.

The A.L.P.'s support of the Moratorium has always been conditional upon the activities being conducted in a peaceful and non-violent way. Despite the fact that the Moratorium Committee planned that the activities should be conducted in a peaceful and non-violent way its decisions were rejected by a general meeting last night and accordingly, the A.L.P. regrettably has no alternative but to disassociate itself and its members from the Demonstration planned for September 18th.

The A.L.P. strongly asserts that people should have the right to use peaceful demonstration as a means of opposing bad laws and other decisions by Government, provided that the exercise of this right is tempered by consideration for the rights of other citizens. The present plans not only fail to recognise those rights but remove the focus of attention from what should be the main aim of the Moratorium, namely the bringing home of Australian troops from Vietnam and the repeal of the National Service Act.